

Message Text

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41

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 FMC-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CG-00 COA-01 DLOS-05

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----- 070312

R 151254Z DEC 74

FM AMCONSUL KHORRAMSHAHR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 229

UNCLAS KHORRAMSHAHR 133

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: EWWT, IR

SUBJ: PORT CONGESTION BANDAR ABBAS

REF: STATE 265300

1. WAITING PERIOD NOW FOR GENERAL CARGO VESSELS AT BANDAR ABBAS 7-10 DAYS AND FOR BULK CARGO CARRIERS 2-3 WEEKS. GOI TO BEST OUR KNOWLEDGE NOT TAKING ANY STEPS TO RELIEVE PORT CONGESTION. HOWEVER SEAMAN PACK HAS PLANS TO BRING 10 EVACUATORS TO BANDAR ABBAS FOR OFFLOADING BULK CARGO. COMPANY REP SAID EVACUATORS COULD INCREASE DAILY TONNAGE OFFLOADED FROM 2400 TO 6000 TONS.
2. PORT HAS SIX BERTHS, HOWEVER ONE AND OFTEN TWO OR THREE ARE USED BY IRANIAN NAVY. ON 9TH DECEMBER IRANIAN NAVY WAS OCCUPYING THREE BERTHS AND THERE WERE SIX SHIPS AT SEA WAITING THEIR TURNS.
3. SHIPPING AGENTS ADVISE THERE IS NO CONGESTION SURCHARGE FOR CARRIERS TRADING BETWEEN BANDAR ABBAS AND NON-U.S. PORTS.
4. LAST YEAR BANDAR ABBAS PORT VIRTUALLY EMPTY MOST OF TIME. DRAMATIC CHANGE CAUSED BY RAPIDLY INCREASING

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IMPORT DEMAND AND CONSEQUENT INCREASE IN SHIPPING TO

IRANIAN PORTS. DELAYS AT KHORRAMSHAHR NOW 16 DAYS
AND EVEN LONGER AT BANDAR SHAPUR. BANDAR ABBAS IN
EFFECT TRYING TO COPE WITH SOME OVERFLOW FROM OTHER
TWO PORTS.

5. ALTHOUGH EQUIPMENT RELATIVELY MODERN, PORT IS PLAGUED
BY SAME PROBLEMS FOUND IN BANDAR SHAPUR AND KHORRAMSHAHR:
POOR MANAGEMENT, CORRUPTION, SLOTH, LACK OF LABOR
ESPECIALLY IN SUMMER, LACK OF TRUCKING, ANTIQUATED
CUSTOMS PROCEDURES AND INADEQUATE WAREHOUSING.

6. SITUATION AT BANDAR ABBAS PORT WILL PROBABLY GET
WORSE. VAUNTED NEW PORT STILL ON DRAWING BOARD AND
SHIPPING CONTINUES TO INCREASE. MEANWHILE RAPIDLY
GROWING IRANIAN NAVY WILL BE DEMANDING MORE AND MORE
SPACE FOR THEIR VESSELS AND---THEY WILL GET IT.
HORNBLow

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